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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/650,476

08/28/2003

Kevin J. Dowling

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10/27/2006

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EXAMINER

PAYNE, SHARON E

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2875

DATE MAILED: 10/27/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/650,476	DOWLING ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Sharon E. Payne	2875	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 8/7/2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-101 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21, 38-58 and 76-101 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 22-37, 59-75 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>016</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

3. Claims 22-26, 28, 59-63 and 65 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hamamoto et al. (U.S. Patent 5,350,977) in view of Deck (U.S. Patent 5,309,277).

Regarding claim 22, Hamamoto et al. discloses controlling at least one light (reference character 12R) via a lighting control signal (Fig. 1, bottom portion) to provide illumination including at least one of a white color (see light sources 12R, 12G, 12B) and

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a non-white color (see light source 12G), the at least one light comprising at least one light source configured to generate a first radiation (reference character 12R) and at least one second light source (reference character 12G) configured to generate a second radiation different from the first radiation (Fig. 1, R is red, and G is green), wherein the non-white color or a color temperature of the white color is determined by mixing particular amounts of the first radiation and the second radiation in response to the lighting control signal (Fig. 1). Hamamoto et al. does not disclose an LED or the step of generating the lighting control signal based at least in part on data provided by the at least one light.

Deck discloses the light sources being LEDs (abstract) and the step of generating the lighting control signal based at least in part on data provided by the at least one light (column 8, lines 55-68).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the configuration of Deck in the apparatus of Hamamoto et al. to make the apparatus ultimately emit the correct color(s) (column 8, lines 55-68, of Deck).

Concerning claim 23, Hamamoto et al. discloses the at least one light including red, blue and green light sources (Fig. 1, reference numbers 12R, 12G and 12B) wherein the illumination includes the white color (Fig. 1, 12R, 12G and 12B mixed) and wherein the white color is generated by a combination of radiation by the red, green and blue light sources (Fig. 1). (Deck discloses the light sources being LEDs for the reasons discussed in the analysis of claim 22).

Regarding claim 24, Hamamoto et al. discloses the at least one first light source including at least one white light source (column 13, lines 5-10), wherein the illumination includes the white color (column 13, lines 5-10), and wherein the white color is generated at least in part by the at least one white light source (column 13, lines 5-10). (Deck discloses the light sources being LEDs for the reasons discussed in the analysis of claim 22).

Concerning claim 25, Hamamoto et al. discloses the at least one second LED including at least one non-white LED (column 13, lines 5-10) and wherein the color temperature of the white color is determined by mixing the first radiation and the second radiation (column 13, lines 5-22). (Deck discloses the light sources being LEDs for the reasons discussed in the analysis of claim 22).

Regarding claim 26, Hamamoto et al. discloses the at least one second light source being selected from the group consisting of an amber source, a green source, a red source, a yellow source, an orange source, a blue source and a UV source (yellow, column 13, lines 5-10). (Deck discloses the light sources being LEDs for the reasons discussed in the analysis of claim 22).

Concerning claim 28, Hamamoto et al. does not disclose data being provided by a light. Deck discloses the data being provided by the at least one light as being color data (column 8, line 44, to column 9, line 5).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the configuration of Deck in the apparatus of Hamamoto et

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al. to make the apparatus ultimately emit the correct color(s) (column 8, lines 55-68, of Deck).

Regarding claim 59, Hamamoto et al. discloses at least one light configured to generate a first radiation (Fig. 1, reference number 12R) and at least one second light source configured to generate a second radiation different from the first radiation (Fig. 1, reference number 12B), and a control system configured to generate a lighting control signal for controlling the at least one light so as to provide illumination including at least one of a white color and a non-white color (Fig. 1, reference numbers 15-17), wherein the non-white color or a color temperature of the white color is determined by mixing particular amounts of the first radiation and the second radiation in response to the lighting control signal (Fig. 1, see the light dimmers). Hamamoto et al. does not disclose LEDs or the LEDs generating data for the controller.

Deck discloses the first and second light sources to be LEDs (abstract) and the control system further being configured to generate the lighting control signal based at least in part on data provided by the at least one light (reference number 16, column 8 in line 44 to column 9 in line 5).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the configuration of Deck in the apparatus of Hamamoto et al. to make the apparatus ultimately emit the correct color(s) (column 8, lines 55-68, of Deck).

Concerning claim 60, Hamamoto et al. discloses the at least one light including red, green and blue light sources (Fig. 1), wherein the illumination includes the white

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color (Fig. 1, the light sources being mixed), and wherein the white color is produced by a combination of radiation generated by the red, green and blue light sources (Fig. 1). (Deck discloses the light sources as LEDs for the reasons discussed in the analysis of claim 59.)

Regarding claim 61, Hamamoto et al. discloses the at least first light source including at least one white light source (column 13, lines 5-10), wherein the illumination includes the white color (column 13, lines 5-10), and wherein the white color is generated at least in part by the at least one light source (column 13, lines 5-10). (Deck discloses the light sources as LEDs for the reasons discussed in the analysis of claim 59.)

Concerning claim 62, Hamamoto et al. discloses the at least one second light source including at least one non-white light source (column 13, lines 5-10), and wherein the color temperature of the white color is determined by mixing the first radiation with the second radiation (column 13, lines 1-22). (Deck discloses the light sources as LEDs for the reasons discussed in the analysis of claim 59.)

Regarding claim 63, Hamamoto et al. discloses the at least one second light source being yellow (column 13, lines 5-10). (Deck discloses the light sources as LEDs for the reasons discussed in the analysis of claim 59.)

Concerning claim 65, Hamamoto et al. does not disclose the light source providing data. Deck discloses data being provided by the at least one light as color data (column 8, line 44, to column 9, line 5).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the configuration of Deck in the apparatus of Hamamoto et al. et al. to make the apparatus ultimately emit the correct color(s) (column 8, lines 55-68, of Deck).

4. Claims 27 and 64 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hamamoto et al. in view of Deck as applied to claims 24 and 61 and further in view of Kuwabara et al. (U.S. Patent 6,508,564).

Regarding claims 27 and 64, Hamamoto et al. does not disclose a second white LED of a different color temperature. Kuwabara et al. discloses the at least one second LED including at least one second white LED having a color temperature different from the at least one first white LED (abstract).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the configuration of Kuwabara et al. in the apparatus of Hamamoto et al. and Deck to produce a light source that "suppress[es] chromaticity difference[s] even in using a point light source" (column 2, lines 50-55, of Kuwabara et al.).

5. Claims 29 and 66 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hamamoto et al. in view of Deck as applied to claims 22 and 59 above, and further in view of Recknagel (U.S. Patent 6,031,343).

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Regarding claim 29, Hamamoto et al. and Deck do not disclose a connector with an address. Recknagel discloses the step of generating the lighting control signal comprising generating an addressed lighting control signal that is addressed to a connector to which the at least one light is coupled (Fig. 1), the connector having an address associated therewith (Fig. 1, see address module).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the configuration of Recknagel in the apparatus of Hamamoto et al. and Deck to make the lights independently controllable. See the abstract of Recknagel.

Concerning claim 66, Hamamoto et al. and Deck do not disclose a connector with an address. Recknagel discloses a connector coupled to the control system (Fig. 1), wherein the at least one light is coupled to the connector (Fig. 1), wherein the connector has an address associated therewith (Fig. 1, address module), and wherein the control system is configured to generate the lighting control signal as an addressed lighting control signal that is addressed to the connector (Fig. 1).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the configuration of Recknagel in the apparatus of Hamamoto et al. and Deck to make the lights independently controllable. See the abstract of Recknagel.

6. Claims 30, 31, 67 and 68 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hamamoto et al. in view of Deck as applied to claims 22 and 59 above, and further in view of Sugden (U.S. Patent 5,406,176).

Regarding claim 30, Hamamoto et al. and Deck do not disclose onboard intelligence included in the light. Sugden discloses providing the data from the at least one light via onboard intelligence included in the at least one light (column 9, line 55, to column 10, line 5).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the configuration of Sugden in the apparatus of Hamamoto et al. and Deck compensate for a failed lamp (column 10, lines 1-5, of Sugden).

Concerning claim 31, Hamamoto et al. and Deck do not disclose the onboard intelligence providing failure data. Sugden discloses the data provided by the onboard intelligence indicates at least partial or imminent failure of the at least one light (column 9, line 55, to column 10, line 5).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the configuration of Sugden in the apparatus of Hamamoto et al. and Deck compensate for a failed lamp (column 10, lines 1-5, of Sugden).

Regarding claim 67, Hamamoto et al. and Deck do not disclose onboard intelligence included in the light. Sugden discloses the at least one light comprising onboard intelligence to generate the data provided by the at least one light (column 9, line 55, to column 10, line 5).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the configuration of Sugden in the apparatus of Hamamoto et al. and Deck compensate for a failed lamp (column 10, lines 1-5, of Sugden).

Concerning claim 68, Hamamoto et al. and Deck do not disclose onboard intelligence included in the light. Sugden discloses the data generated by the onboard intelligence indicates at least a partial or imminent failure of the at least one light (column 10, lines 1-5).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the configuration of Sugden in the apparatus of Hamamoto et al. and Deck compensate for a failed lamp (column 10, lines 1-5, of Sugden).

7. Claims 32, 33-36, 69-74 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Recknagel in view of Launey et al. (U.S. Patent 5,086,385).

Regarding claim 32, Recknagel et al. discloses the steps of providing lighting control signals for controlling a plurality of lights disposed in a plurality of positions within the environment (Fig. 1), the plurality of lights comprising red LEDs (column 4, lines 30-40) providing a control system for generating lighting control signals (reference number 110), providing connectors (reference numbers 120_n and 125) between the control system and a plurality of the lights (Fig. 1), the connectors having address facilities proximal the lights of the plurality of lights associated therewith (Fig. 1, see portion right above the lights), addressing a lighting control signal to a connector associated with at least one light (Fig. 1), the control signal provided as an addressed

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lighting control signal (Fig. 1, see address module), wherein the at least one light when connected to the connector responds to the addressed lighting control signal (Fig. 1), and configuring the control system to respond to signals from at least one other system of the environment (Fig. 1, top) and to generate the addressed lighting control signal in response to the signals from the at least one other system of the environment (Fig. 1, top). Recknagel does not disclose the step of configuring the control system to respond to signals from another system of the aircraft.

Launey et al. discloses the environment as an aircraft environment (column 12 in lines 1-20), and the step of configuring the control system to respond to signals from at least one other system of the aircraft (Fig. 1, column 12 in lines 1-20) and to generate lighting control signals in response to the signals from the at least one other system (Fig. 1, see the lower right portion).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the configuration of Launey et al. in the apparatus of Recknagel to provide control of multiple electronic means in a manner that is easy to use. See column 3, lines 1-10, of Launey et al.

Concerning claim 33 and 71, Recknagel does not disclose a control system having an interface to an environmental system of the aircraft. Launey et al. discloses the other system of the aircraft environment includes an environmental system and wherein control system has an interface to an environmental system of the aircraft (Fig. 1, column 12 in lines 1-20).

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It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the configuration of Launey et al. in the apparatus of Recknagel to provide control of multiple electronic means in a manner that is easy to use. See column 3, lines 1-10, of Launey.

Concerning claims 34 and 72, Recknagel et al. does not disclose the control system having an interface to another system of the aircraft. Launey et al. discloses the other system being selected from the group consisting of a navigation system, a safety system, an alarm system, a maintenance system, a communications system and an entertainment system (safey/security system, Fig. 1).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the configuration of Launey et al. in the apparatus of Recknagel to provide control of multiple electronic means in a manner that is easy to use. See column 3, lines 1-10, of Launey et al.

Regarding claim 35, Recknagel et al. does not disclose the interior of the aircraft. Launey et al. the at least one light of the exterior, the cabin interior, a ceiling, a floor, a cockpit, a bathroom, a kitchen, a corridor, an aisle and a seat (cabin interior, column 12 in lines 1-20).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the configuration of Launey et al. in the apparatus of Recknagel to provide control of multiple electronic means in a manner that is easy to use. See column 3, lines 1-10, of Launey et al.

Concerning claim 36, Recknagel et al. discloses the environmental system including a plurality of environmental systems (Fig. 1, top), and wherein configuring the control system to respond to signals from at least one other system of the environment includes configuring the control system to respond to signals from the plurality of environmental systems (Fig. 1, top). (Launey discloses the system as an aircraft system for the reasons discussed above.)

Concerning claim 69, Recknagel et al. discloses a control system for generating a lighting control signal (reference number 110) for controlling a lighting system that has a plurality of lights disposed in a plurality of positions within the environment (Fig. 1), connectors (reference numbers 120_n and 125) between the control system and a plurality of the lights (Fig. 1), the connectors having address facilities proximal lights of the plurality of lights associated therewith (Fig. 1, see address modules), wherein the lighting control signals are addressed to the connectors as addressed lighting control signals (Fig. 1), wherein at least one light, when connected to a connector of the plurality of connectors, responds to an addressed lighting control signal of the lighting control signals that is addressed to that connector (Fig. 1, see light modules) and wherein the control system is configured to generate the lighting control signal in response to the signals from the at least one other system of the environment (Fig. 1, top). Recknagel does not disclose the step of configuring the control system to respond to signals from another system of the aircraft.

Launey et al. discloses the step of configuring the control system to respond to signals from at least one other system of the aircraft (Fig. 1, column 12 in lines 1-20)

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and to generate lighting control signals in response to the signals from the at least one other system (Fig. 1, see the lower right portion).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the configuration of Launey et al. in the apparatus of Recknagel to provide control of multiple electronic means in a manner that is easy to use. See column 3, lines 1-10, of Launey et al.

Regarding claim 70, Recknagel et al. discloses the at least one light comprises LEDs selected from the group consisting of red, green, blue, amber, UV, orange and white LEDs (column 4, lines 30-42).

Regarding claim 73, Recknagel et al. does not disclose an aircraft environment. Launey et al. discloses the at least one light disposed on at least one of an exterior, the cabin interior, a ceiling, a floor, a cockpit, a bathroom, a kitchen, a corridor, an aisle and a seat (cabin interior, column 12 in lines 1-20).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the configuration of Launey et al. in the apparatus of Recknagel to provide control of multiple electronic means in a manner that is easy to use. See column 3, lines 1-10, of Launey et al.

Concerning claim 74, Recknagel et al. discloses the environmental system including a plurality of environmental systems (Fig. 1, top) and wherein the control system is configured to respond to signals from the plurality of environmental systems (Fig. 1, top).

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8. Claims 37 and 75 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Recknagel et al. in view of Launey et al. as applied to claims 36 and 74 above, and further in view of Tadokoro et al. (U.S. Patent 4,367,470).

Regarding claim 37, Recknagel et al. discloses generating the addressed lighting control signals in response to the prioritized signals (Fig. 1). Recknagel and Launey et al. do not specifically disclose a facility for prioritizing lighting commands from different lighting system control elements. Tadokoro et al. discloses prioritizing lighting commands from different environmental systems of the plurality of environmental systems (column 2 in lines 5-25 and Fig. 1).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the configuration of Tadokoro et al. in the apparatus of Recknagel et al. and Launey et al. to reduce the amount of equipment needed to control several features of the apparatus. See column 1, line 50, to column 2, line 2, of Tadokoro et al.

Regarding claim 75, Recknagel et al. discloses generating addressed lighting control signal in response to the prioritized signals (Fig. 1). Recknagel and Launey do not specifically disclose a facility for prioritizing lighting commands from different lighting system control elements. Tadokoro et al. the control system being configured to prioritize the signals from different environmental systems of the plurality of environmental systems (column 2 in lines 5-25 and Fig. 1).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the configuration of Tadokoro et al. in the apparatus of

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Recknagel et al. to reduce the amount of equipment needed to control several features of the apparatus. See column 1, line 50, to column 2, line 2, of Tadokoro et al.

Allowable Subject Matter

9. Claims 1-21, 38-58 and 76-101 are allowed.

10. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter. The prior art fails to disclose a lighting system having the following features and method steps:

1) the step of addressing the lighting control signal to the connector as an addressed lighting control signal, wherein the at least one light, when connected to the connector, responds to the addressed lighting control signal, and wherein the addressed lighting control signal is based at least in part on data communicated from the at least one light to the control system over the two-way data interface provided by the connector as recited in claim 1;

2) the lighting control signal is an addressed lighting control signal that is addressed to the connector, wherein the at least one light, when connected to the connector, responds to the addressed lighting control signal and wherein the addressed lighting control signal is based at least in part on data communicated from the at least one light to the control system over the two-way data interface provided by the connector as recited in claim 38;

3) at least one intelligent connector of the plurality of intelligent connectors, to which the at least one light is coupled, provides a two-way data interface between the control system and the at least one light as recited in claim 76;

4) at least one intelligent connector to which the at least one light is coupled, the at least one intelligent connector being associated with an address and capable of handling the lighting data that is addressed to the at least one intelligent connector from the control system, the at least one intelligent connector further providing a two-way data interface between the at least one light and the control system as recited in claim 89.

Response to Arguments

11. Applicant's arguments filed 7/31/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Regarding claims 32 and 69, Applicant argues that Recknagel does not disclose connectors having their address apparatus proximal to the lights. To the contrary, in Fig. 1 of Recknagel, the address facility is proximal to the light and further away from the controller.

Applicant also argues that Recknagel should not be combined with Launey, because no motivation exists to combine the references. To the contrary, the motivation is provided in the last sentence of the rejections of claims 32 and 69. Furthermore, the motivation is provided by the Launey reference itself. Applicant does not say why the motivations are improper, and the rejections stand. Furthermore, both

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bowling alleys and airplanes need lights, and they work pretty much the same way in either environment. Combining the references would be obvious. The Applicant also points out that the claim recites the limitation of requiring the control system to respond to signals from the environment or the light. This is shown in Recknagel for the reasons disclosed in the rejection. The top of Fig. 1 of Recknagel discloses the apparatus responding to signals from the environment (the external system and the audio system), and Launey discloses an aircraft environment. Thus, the limitation is met, and the rejection stands.

The other arguments are rendered moot due to new grounds of rejection or are accepted as shown in the allowable subject matter.

Conclusion

12. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

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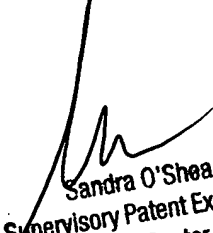
the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sharon E. Payne whose telephone number is (571) 272-2379. The examiner can normally be reached on regular business hours.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on (571) 272-2378. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

14. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Sep


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